

## ABSTRACT

A method for forming a porous thin film is  
5 characterized by formation of a composite thin film on a  
substrate, in which film a metal portion composed of a first  
metal component and a metal compound portion composed of a  
compound of a second metal component which is different from  
the first metal component are mixed-dispersed, and following  
10 removal of the metal portion from the composite thin film. A  
method for forming a porous thin film is alternatively  
characterized by formation of a composite thin film on a  
substrate, in which film a first metal portion composed of a  
first metal component and a second metal portion composed of  
15 a second metal component which is different from the first  
metal component are mixed-dispersed, and following removal of  
either one of the metal portions from the composite thin film.